

# Energy Policy The Interconnection Challenge

CARIMET Workshop- Metrology and  
Technology Challenges of Climate Science  
and Renewable Energy

11 April 2015

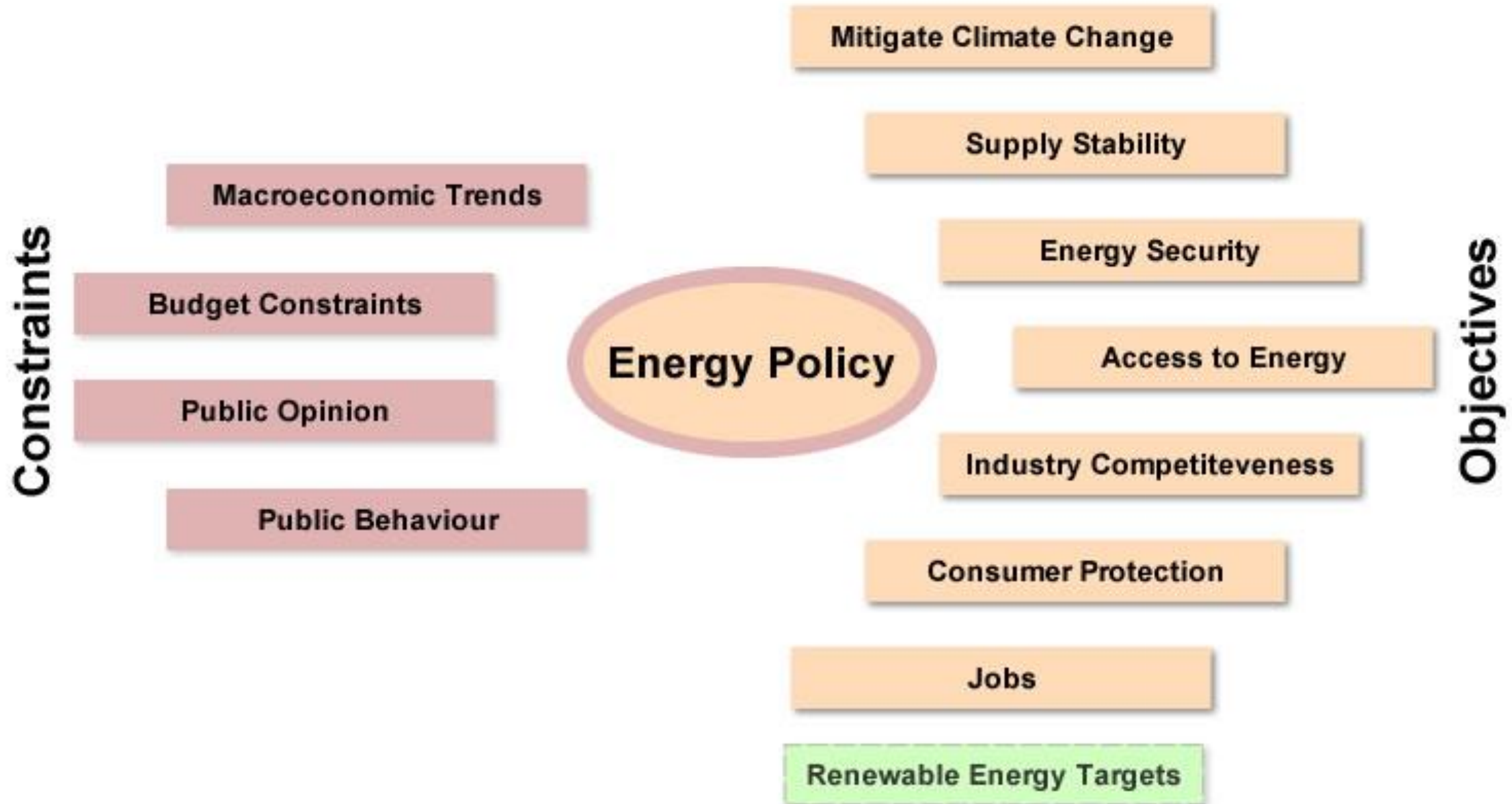
# Factors that drive CO2 Emissions

$$\text{CO}_2 = P \times S \times E \times C$$

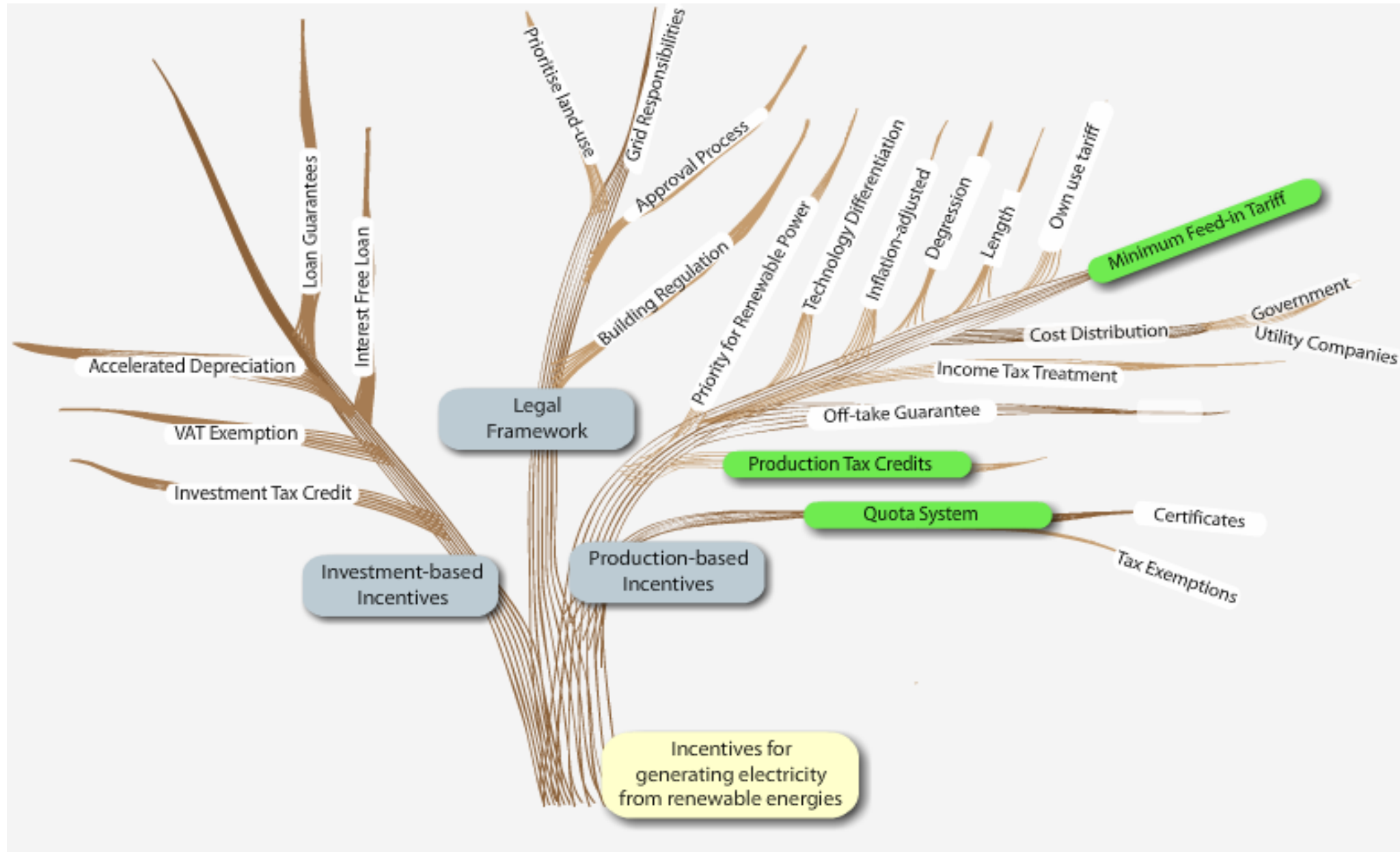
People                      Energy Services                      Energy Efficiency                      CO2 per unit Energy

Source : Bill Gates, TED 2013

# Energy Policy Conundrum



# Renewable Energy Policy



## Four Pillars of Good- Solar Policy

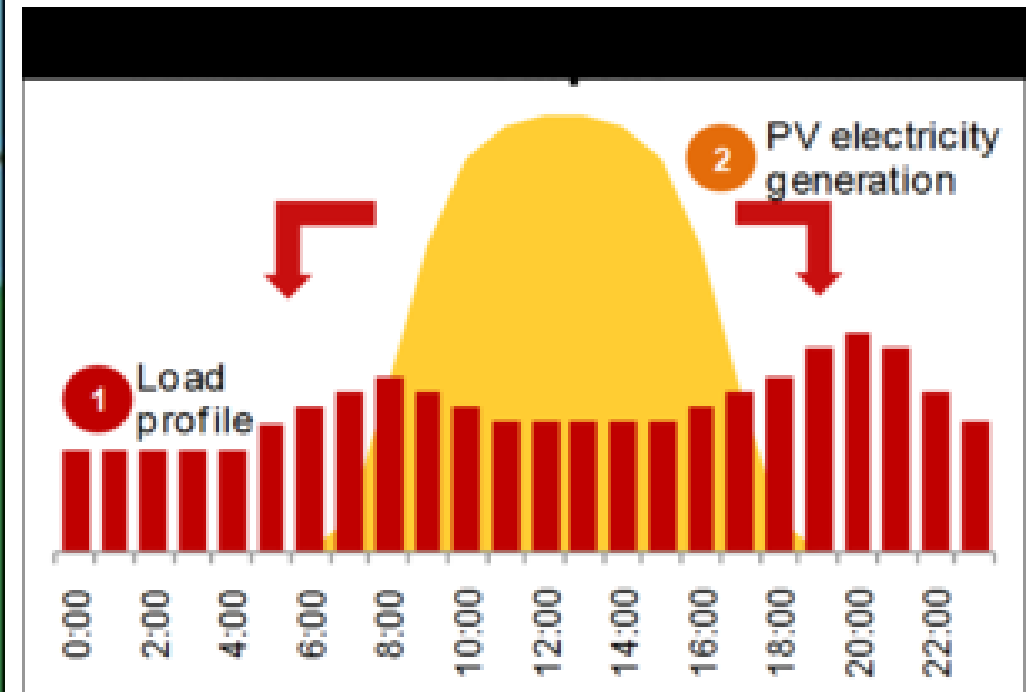
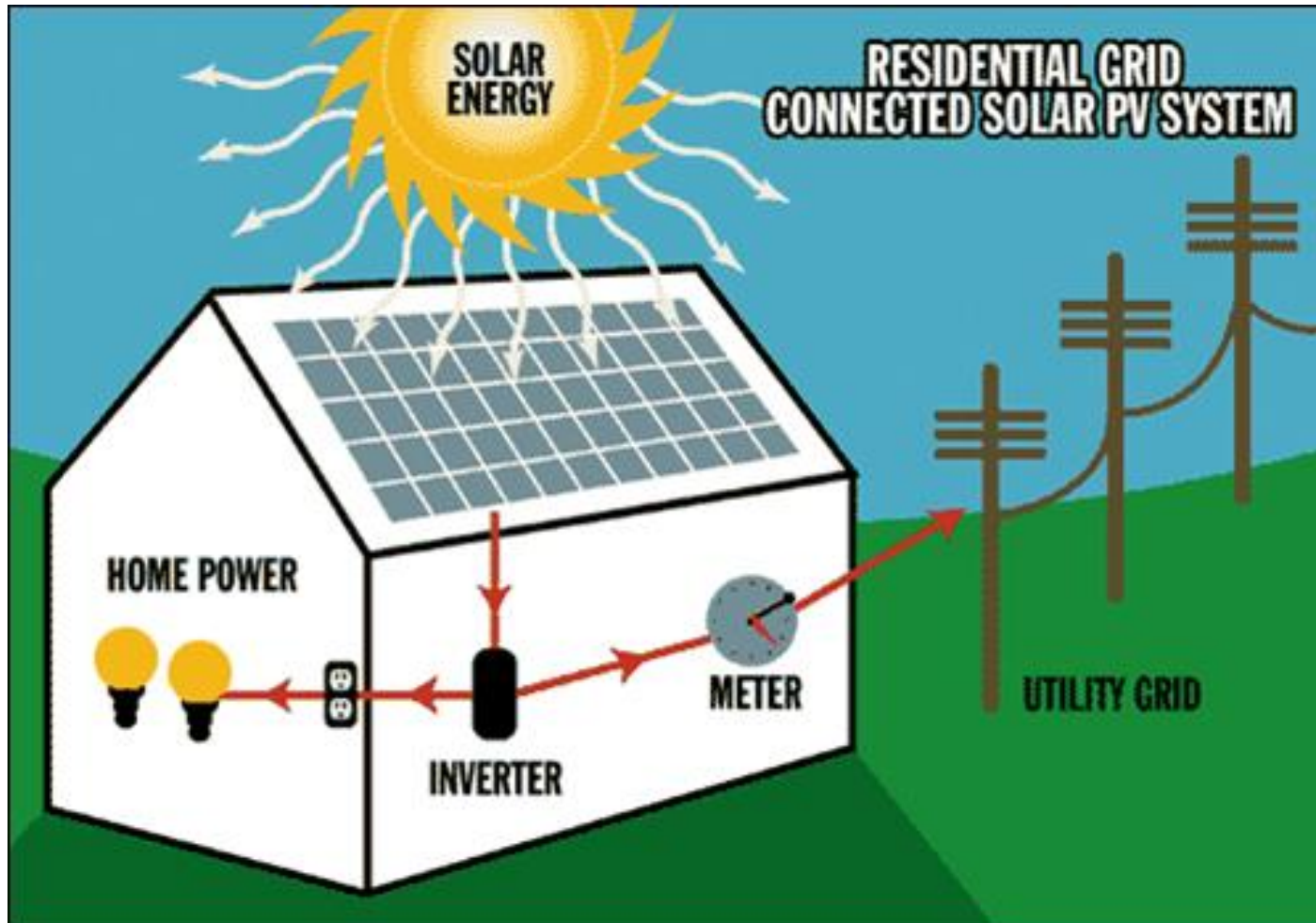
- Standards & Incentives
- **Interconnection.**
- **Net-metering.**
- Utility Rates and Revenue Policies
- 

## Non Policy issues

- Personal Economic context represented by median household income
- Physical Characteristics of homes and existing network.
- State of the existing grid.
- General community interest in Renewable Energy generally
- The acquisition cost of the technology



# Net Energy Metering



# Where the Rubber meets the Road

- Interconnection and net-metering lead to more robust markets.
- Inconsistency is the nemesis of Clean Energy Development
- **While Financial Incentives are the engine of market development, interconnection and net-metering is the road.**
- States with long-standing best practice interconnection and net metering policies tend to see increases in capacity when layering other incentives on top of those policies
- Individuals should have the right to self-generate.
- Individuals should have the right to sell excess energy.
- Individuals to should have the right to self-consume.

# Challenges and Questions?

- What effects will RE generation have on Utilities revenues and cost structure?
- How much should customers be paid for self generation and by whom?
- How do utilities attract new investments for the maintenance and upgrading the grid as well as any new generation capacity?
- Do customers have an inherent right to consume the power they produce?
- What are the technical challenges from high penetration of RE on existing networks?
- What new business models and services will emerge with RE increased penetration and how will system reward these services?



# On-site generation Policies

Country	Policy Mechanism	On-site Consumption?	System size cap	Program cap	Compensation structure	Compensation amount (USD)
Barbados	Renewable Energy Rider	Yes**	1.5x the customer's current avg. usage up to a max. capacity of 150kW	9MW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Under 2kW: Cash payment for metered output of system.</li> <li>Over 2 kW: Cash payment for 100% of power</li> </ul>	1.6x the Fuel Clause Adjustment
Cayman Islands	CORE Tariff	Yes*	Residential: 20 kW, or peak load	2 MW	Cash payment for 100% of power	~USD \$0.47/kWh for 20 years
Grenada	Renewable Standard Offer	No	Commercial: 100 kW, or peak load	2.5% of annual electricity demand	Cash payment for 100% of power	USD \$0.17/kWh for 10 years, or avg. avoided fuel cost for previous 12 months
Jamaica	Net Billing Standard Offer Contract	Yes	Residential: 10kW, Comm.: 100kW	2% of JPS' highest system peak	Cash payment for metered output of system	Short-run avoided cost of generation
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	VINLEC Net Billing/FIT policy	Yes***	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single phase: 17kW</li> <li>Three phase: 50kW</li> </ul>	Max. of 5% of peak demand on certain islands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential: Cash payment for metered output of system.</li> <li>Commercial: Cash payment for 100% of power</li> </ul>	EC \$0.45/kWh
USVI	Feed-In Tariff	No	10 – 500kW	15MW (both programs in total)	Cash payment for 100% of power	Percentage discount to the avoided cost of the Utility
	Net Metering	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential: 20kW</li> <li>Comm.: 100kW</li> <li>Public Facility: 500kW</li> </ul>		Generation credited to the customer-generator's utility account	Retail rate

\* Power can be consumed on-site but it does not offset retail electricity purchases. Customer pays the utility retail rate for all electricity consumed.

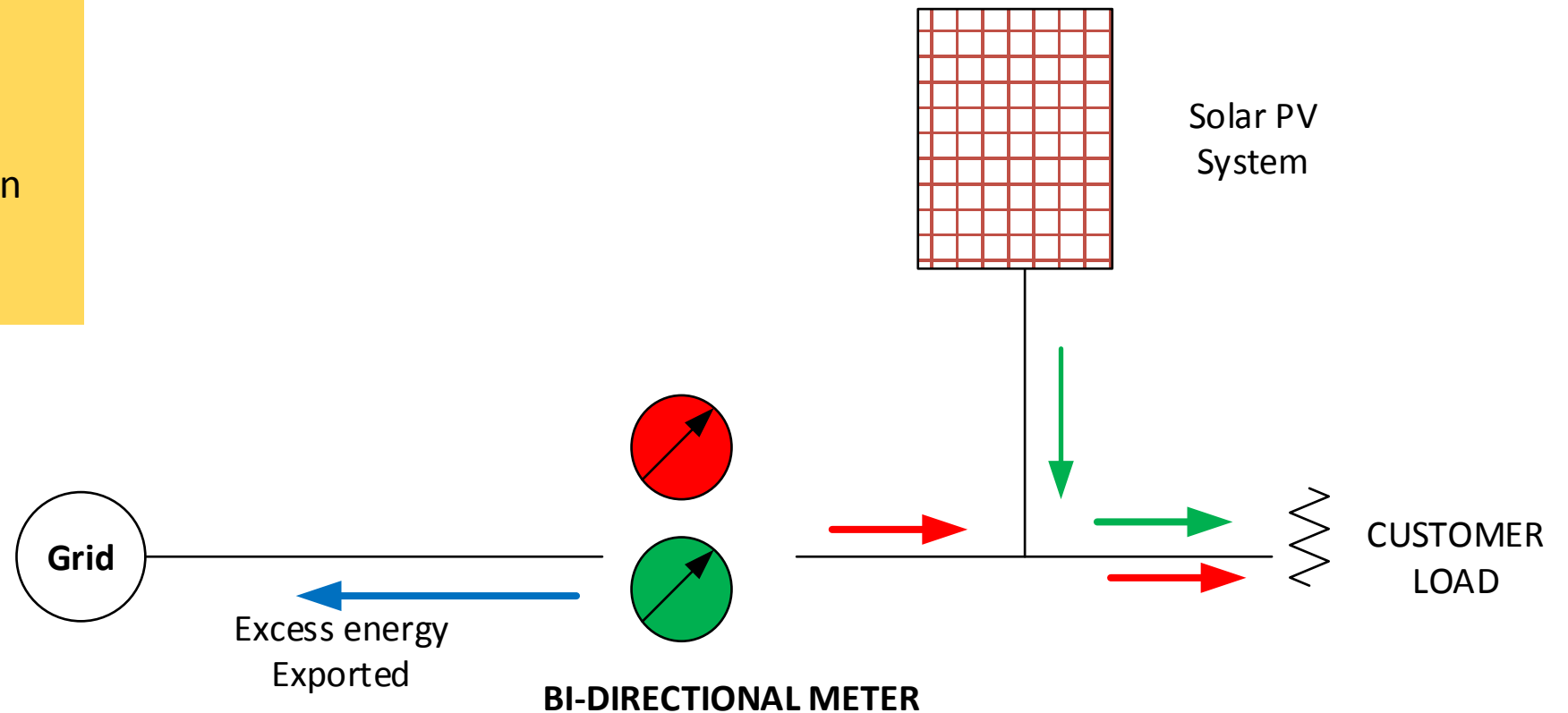
\*\* Systems up to 2kW may choose whether to use a Buy All/Sell All or a Sale of Excess arrangement; system owners over 2kW may only enter into a Buy All/Sell All agreement

\*\*\* Residential systems may consume on-site; commercial systems must utilize a Buy All/Sell All arrangement

# New APUA Interconnection Policy 5KW and lower

## Sale of Excess

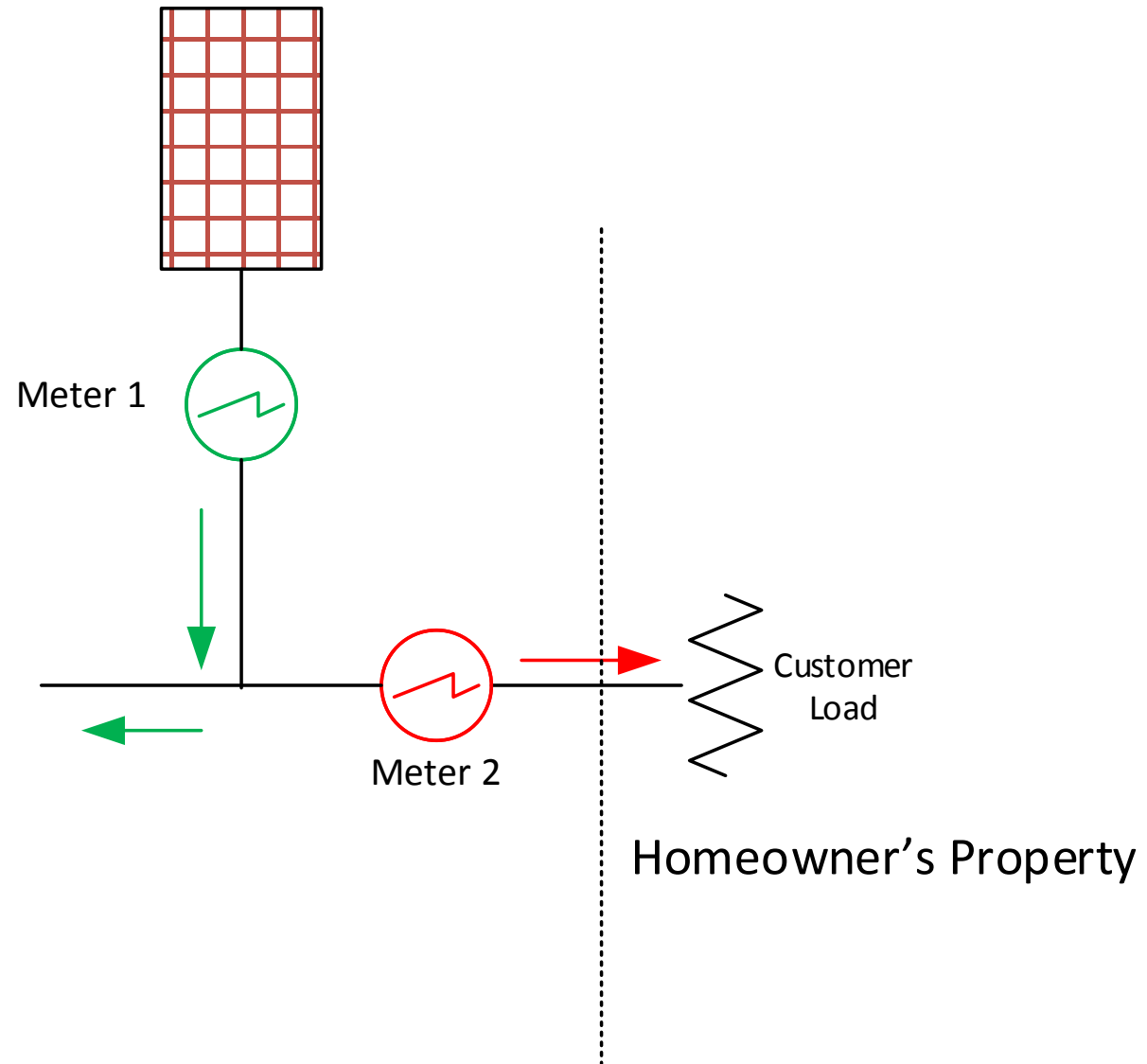
- Allows limited self consumption
- APUA buy rate is 45 cents
- Increases payback from 5 to 9 years
- No transparency on calculation of buy rate



# New Interconnection Policy –Above 5kW

## Buy All- Sell All

- All Energy is bought from APUA at the retail rate
- All Energy is sold to APUA at 45 cents
- No Self-consumption allowed
- Payback increased to ~12 years



# Putting the Genie Back in the Bottle



# Framing the Energy Debate/Discussion

The Environment

Energy Security

Fossil Fuel Resource limits

Macro-economic issues (e.g debt)

Jobs

Household/Business Income

Individual Rights

The Future



The discussion should be about the future.



**"The BEST way to  
PREDICT the FUTURE  
is to  
DESIGN IT."**

**- Buckminster Fuller**